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W. James Wagoner
Air Pollution Control Officer

(530) 332-9400
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March 27, 2014

Mary Nichols, Chairman
California Air Resources Board
1001 I Street
Sacramento, CA 95812

Re: Proposed Amendments to the Regulation to Reduce Emissions of Diesel Particulate Matter, Oxides of Nitrogen and Other Criteria Pollutants From In-Use Heavy-Duty Diesel-Fueled Vehicles (Truck and Bus Regulation)

Dear Chairman Nichols:

The Governing Board of the Butte County Air Quality Management District (Board) provides the following comments on the proposed amendments to the state Truck and Bus Regulation. In preface, we appreciate the outreach of your staff with the Chico town hall meeting in March 2013, working with our staff and meeting with our citizens on this issue. This regulation was designed to reduce a wide variety of air pollutants and toxic diesel emissions to improve air quality state-wide. We understand it is a critical piece of the attainment strategy in many areas of the state, but not in Butte County. Toward that end, we appreciate the staff proposal to provide new compliance options and exemptions for owner/operators in our area.

Our Board continues to be concerned with the economic impacts of the regulation and the particulate filter mandate continuing in rural areas, while there are still reports of performance issues. We request that the particulate filter requirement be suspended until CARB's current study is complete and your Board can consider the ramifications.

Having said this, if you do not suspend the filter mandate, we urge you to approve the extended compliance schedules your staff are proposing, including the provisions for agricultural vehicles and work trucks. We also support the proposed new NOx exempt areas, including Butte County. We understand with the new compliance schedules there will be more trucks eligible for grant funding, which we support.

If you have any questions on this correspondence, please contact our Air Pollution Control Officer, Jim Wagoner, at (530) 332-9400.

Sincerely, *Maureen Kirk*

Supervisor Maureen Kirk, Chair
Butte County Air Quality Management District Governing Board

629 Entler Avenue, Suite 15 ♦ Chico, CA 95928